

YOUR WAMPO POLICY BODY MEMBERS

- ④ Seven (7) Planning Commissioners appointed by the City of Wichita,
- ④ Seven (7) Planning Commissioners appointed by Sedgwick County,
- ④ One (1) Wichita Transit representative appointed by the City of Wichita,
- ④ Two (2) elected officials selected by the Sedgwick County Association of Cities,
- ④ One (1) representative, encouraged to be an elected official, from Butler County/ City of Andover, and
- ④ One (1) representative, encouraged to be an elected official, from Sumner County/ City of Mulvane.

Ex-Officio:

- ④ The Secretary of Transportation (KDOT) will appoint one (1) ex-officio representative to the MPO Policy Body.

Wichita Area Metropolitan Planning Organization

City Hall, 10th floor

455 N. Main

Wichita, Kansas 67202-1688

WHAT ON EARTH IS AN MPO?

~It is a reflection of the community's
vision for its future~



For more information about the
**WICHITA AREA METROPOLITAN
PLANNING ORGANIZATION**

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WAMPO

City Hall, 10th Floor

455 N. Main

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or visit our website at:
www.wichita.gov/cityoffices/planning/transportation

WHAT ON EARTH IS AN MPO?



Transportation helps shape an area's economic health and quality of life. Not only does the transportation system provide for the mobility of people and goods, it also influences patterns of growth and economic activity through accessibility to land. Further more, the performance of this system affects such public policy concerns as air quality, environmental resource consumption, social equity, "smart growth", economic development, safety, and security.

Metropolitan transportation planning recognizes these critical links between transportation and other societal goals. The Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) ensures that the regional transportation system's future coincides with the region's vision for its future. The MPO takes a comprehensive, holistic look at the needs and the future of the region and its inhabitants, by providing information and tools for the public and their representatives to improve the transportation system performance.

WHAT IS AN MPO?

The policy makers for local transportation planning are formed as the MPO. An MPO, by definition, is a required regional policy body in urbanized areas with populations over 50,000. The Wichita Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (WAMPO) is responsible, in cooperation with the State of Kansas, for carrying out the regional metropolitan transportation planning process.

The Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) provides technical support to the Policy Body on a variety of transportation related issues. In addition, the TAC meetings provide a forum for discussion among TAC members and the public. Recommendation of technical issues, critiquing of key documents, and coordination of transportation planning activities are duties of the TAC.

The Policy Body is a twenty-member group consisting of nineteen local voting members and one State of Kansas ex-officio member. The Policy Body includes local elected officials, officials of agencies that administer or operate different systems of transportation, and the appropriate state officials.



The decisions that a Policy Body will make are steered by three main concepts. These concepts are called the "3-C's" planning process.

Comprehensive, coordinated, and continuous planning form the "3-C's" and are illustrated in the documents produced by WAMPO.

KEY DOCUMENTS

The key documents produced by WAMPO are the Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP), Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), and the Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP).

The 2030 LRTP was adopted in August 2005. The plan has a twenty-five year planning horizon and is the statement of the ways the region plans to invest in the transportation system. The plan identifies conditions and strategies; included but not limited to regional land use, housing, employment, projects for the future, public input, preservation of existing transportation facilities,

and fiscal constraints. The LRTP is the fundamental document for WAMPO.

The TIP is updated every two years as a part of the planning process. However the document is "flexible" because it is regularly amended as projects are completed and new projects begin. The TIP for the WAMPO region is a list of transportation improvements to be implemented over the next five years (2006-2010). All regionally significant transportation projects are required to be a part of the TIP. The TIP can contain projects such as planned highway widening, intersection improvements, transit studies, and any other improvements or additions to the transportation system in which federal money is used.

The UPWP is an annually updated document that contains the descriptions of transportation related planning activities to be undertaken by WAMPO for the upcoming calendar year. It will contain budget information, funding sources, and other scheduled activities. The UPWP reflects local priorities, so the content will differ from one MPO to another. As a management tool, it is used to coordinate all the transportation planning activities of WAMPO.

These activities all combine to give our region the best transportation system for today and the future. It links policy makers, experts, and the general public to a comprehensive, continued, and coordinated plan. The planning process is more than merely a listing of future highways and planned transit upgrades; it requires developing strategies for operating, managing, maintaining, and financing the area's transportation to advance the area's long-term goals.

